

The Hartford News

January 9 – 15, 2020



NEWS BRIEFS

MARG Meets TONIGHT

The Maple Avenue Revitalization Group (MARG) will hold its monthly meeting at 6 pm on Thursday, January 9, in the lower level of St. Augustine Church, 10 Campfield Avenue, Hartford. There will be a discussion of public safety in the neighborhood and a presentation by John S. Philip, City of Hartford Tax Assessor on the city's current tax amnesty program. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, call MARG President Hyacinth Yennie at 860-296-5543.

Art Exhibit Opening Jan. 10 at Library

Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Downtown Hartford, will host an opening reception for its new ArtWalk exhibit, Alexandra Wahl's "Quilts in a New Light," from 5:30 - 7:30 pm on Friday, January 10. The ArtWalk is located on the third floor of the library. Admission is free and open to the public. The exhibit will be on display on the ArtWalk through February 23.

Local Historian to Discuss the Easton Family on January 14

Join local activist and community historian, Steve Thornton, as he explores the remarkable Easton family on Tuesday, January 14, at 12 noon, at Connecticut's Old State House, 700 Main Street, Downtown Hartford. The Eastons were a very prominent and distinguished African-American family in Hartford in the 19th century, but their story was nearly lost due to prejudice and neglect. The first members of the Easton family arrived in 1833 as free people from Massachusetts. Reverend Hosea Easton became the first African American minister to lead Hartford's original Black church. Reverend Easton's multi-talented son Sampson followed the family's anti-slavery tradition with bold acts of courage. Grandson and namesake Hosea became a world-famous musician and actor.

Hartford NEXT Meets January 16

Hartford NEXT, Inc's January meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2020 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at 79 Van Block Ave, Hartford. The meeting will include a community conversation to provide the City of Hartford Central Grants team with suggestions on the

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Kings Ride High on Park Street

State Representative Julio Concepción (center) and City Councilman Jimmy Sanchez get ready to ride in Hartford's annual Three Kings Day Parade. Former Hartford Police Lieutenant Brian Foley played the third king. The Parade, which is sponsored by the Spanish American Merchants Association (SAMA) went down Park Street to Pope Park, where a festival with gifts and camel rides for children was held. (Hart photo)

City of Hartford Career Fair January 18

On Saturday, January 18, the City of Hartford will host a Career Fair from 11 am - 2 pm at City Hall, 550 Main Street, Downtown Hartford. Representatives from numerous city departments, including Police & Fire Departments, Development Services, Finance, Public Works, Human Resources, and Health & Human Services, Management & Budget, will be on hand to discuss career opportunities.

Hartford...Once Upon a Time



Student capacity was a lot larger in Hartford Public Schools classrooms 60 years ago than it is today. This photo shows Mrs. Burrill's 4th grade class at the old New Park Avenue School in 1960, and its 36 students (a typical class size), complete with "blackboards" and a "cloak room", as they were called back then. The old desks still had inkwells, but fountain pens were no longer used. There was one teacher to a room – no classroom aides, paraprofessionals, or room mothers – to maintain order and instill learning. NPA was a neighborhood school, as all city schools were pre Sheff-O'Neill. At that time, Parkville was an overwhelmingly white area, but in 1962, re-zoning resulted in students living in parts of Charter Oak Terrace being reassigned to NPA, thus diversifying the school population. The school was razed in 1976, and the Parkville Community School stands on that site today. (Photo courtesy of Anne Goshdigian)

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“JUSTICE FOR PIDGIE”

66 years ago a horrific murder in Hartford was solved and justice was served... except for one thing

BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

The End:

When Robert Nelson Malm was put to death in the electric chair on July 18th, 1955, the book *Legal Executions in New England* begins the entry about his crime with “This man was a decorated veteran of World War II. He saw hard action as a naval gunner and was awarded 11 battle stars plus a presidential citation. On the down side, he was a pervert with an insatiable appetite for little girls.” On the down side. The book goes on to paint a rather melodramatic portrait of Malm's last moments of life: “Malm walked to the electric chair with his head bowed and his eyes closed. The warden later told reporters that Malm acted that way because he was deeply ashamed of himself.” By being endowed with praise for his wartime service, and absolved of his crime by a warden—who must have fancied himself a mind reader—by assuming unspoken feelings of shame and remorse—the killer was given more respect than one of his victims.

Irene:

Irene Fiederowicz, an 11 year-old student at Mary Hooker School, was walking home from a Hillside Avenue grocery store when she was stalked, grabbed off the street, and dragged through back yards to the rear of a house on Sequin Street, where she was sexually assaulted, and then strangled to death by Malm on December 10th, 1953. The murder and its aftermath is at the gut-wrenching heart of *Girls of Tender Age*, the bestselling 2006 memoir by Hartford native Mary-Anne Tirone Smith, who was Irene's classmate and friend. Receiving glowing reviews from prestigious publications after its release, the book has sold tens of thousands of copies nationally and internationally, been the choice of dozens of book clubs, and has not been out of print during the ensuing 14 years. Smith grew up in Charter Oak Terrace and is a 1961 graduate of HPHS. The memoir, which also focuses on her family life with an autistic brother, a self-centered mother, and a father who tried to hold it all together, also shines a light on the 1950s world of not only Hartford, but the societal attitudes of that era – a pre-“Me Too” movement” era – when crimes and offenses committed against girls and women carried a stigma; the tacit shaming and blaming of the victim, the pressure to keep quiet about what happened and even forget about it, a stifling which would often affect lives for decades to come.

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What’s the BIG Idea?

COMMENTARY BY DONNA SWARR

Last week I asked if you – yes, you – have any ideas for economic development in the neighborhoods. Crickets, I heard crickets.

Here are my ideas; incentives for the owners of 1-6 family dwellings to improve the housing stock, hire a company that can work with the community to help home owners remove, maintain and plant new trees, repair/restore sections of streetscapes on Park, Maple, and Franklin Avenues, and complete the Wethersfield Avenue streetscape northward, pave the roads, hire a company to oversee and insure that MDC’s roadwork is completed as it is intended, review the existing surveys of boarded-up storefronts along the boulevards, and lastly, work with CT Transit to redesign the bus lines so that you can get between the neighborhoods in a timely manner.

We have sufficient housing stock. The problem is that it is in poor condition. As a result, there is a high turnover which requires moving children into different schools, creates a lack of neighborhood social connections/identity, bulky waste issues, and continues the vicious cycle of landlords losing the last month of rent.

We need a lot more trees to reduce energy consumption. There are numerous studies which prove the effectiveness of doing this. There are energy equity grants that could be sought to support this effort. We need a structure to assist the neighborhoods to plan and enact the effort. Our city’s staffing

is insufficient to perform this task. We need the trees to clean our air. We live in a city where there is serious traffic congestion and we have I-91 and I-84 running through our city. We need to plant trees to absorb the pollution. Trees are the best, most cost effective way to reduce surface runoff of water from our crazy new storm cycle. Healthy trees can add 3-15 percent to residential property values (Arbor Day Foundation).

None of these suggestions are easy or low-hanging fruit. They will require a serious effort by our city’s staff, long-term financial commitment, and collaboration with partners at the State and Federal level. It is what our neighborhoods need.

Make ALL of the boulevards attractive. Albany Avenue and Farmington Avenue have had new streetscapes installed. The Park Street streetscape has large sections that are in need of replacement due to shoddy work and materials when it was installed in 2003-2004. Franklin Avenue’s streetscape was completed in 1995; it needs an upgrade. Maple Avenue has had a couple of areas restored, but there are several more sections that need work. I can’t find anything about a streetscape project ever being done

for Wethersfield Avenue, but there was an underground lighting project that failed. The streets on these boulevards are in horrific condition. Hire a company to oversee MDC work. Their cavalier attitude about tearing up new pavement, sidewalks, and use of permanent marking paint is out of control. Most of the graffiti in Hartford is done by MDC. We need someone to follow up and make sure they abide by the established contract obligations. DPW doesn’t have adequate staff to do this. The Planning division did surveys of businesses along the boulevards years ago, and determined they need to be updated. Empty storefronts along the boulevards need to be filled, but without an attractive street, it will be impossible to lure small business owners and entrepreneurs.

The existing bus lines were designed to get people in and out of Hartford, not around Hartford. This inhibits going between neighborhoods. We need new lines that allow people to get across the city. The map shows you areas which require that you go downtown and back out again along a “spoke”. It makes those areas less desirable to live in, as you must own a car to efficiently get to work.

None of these suggestions are easy or low-hanging fruit. They will require a serious effort by our city’s staff, long-term financial commitment, and collaboration with partners at the State and Federal level. It is what our neighborhoods need.

Library Awarded \$40,000 for New Books

Hartford Public Library has been selected to receive an award of \$40,000 for new children’s books that will expand the Library’s mission. First Book, the nonprofit social enterprise focused on equal access to quality education for children in need, awarded the funds as part of its OMG Books Awards: Offering More Great Books to Spark Innovation, a program that will give more than \$4.7 million in funding to distribute 1.5 million brand new books and eBooks to children living in low-income communities in 33 U.S. states and territories.

This generous award enables Hartford Public Library, in concert with Hartford Public Schools, to distribute more than 12,000 books to 4,000 Hartford school children. Utilizing the unique collaboration between the two public organizations under their Boundless part-

nership, a multifaceted approach to mutual goals, free books will be distributed to children at all neighborhood libraries in the city, as well as through school classrooms. At these give-a-way events, children of all ages are given new books to begin or add to their home libraries with the goal of both fostering a life-long love of reading and engaging whole families around literacy.

Awardees are using the funding to select books and eBooks from the First Book Marketplace (www.fbmarketplace.com), First Book’s eCommerce platform, that best meet the needs of the children they serve. First Book estimates the total value of the books distributed will be more than \$12 million.

Access to adequate resources is one of the greatest contributors to educational success in the United States. Research indicates that just

the presence of books in the home improves educational outcomes, yet low-income communities across the U.S. are plagued by vast book deserts—with one community having only a single book per as many as 830 children.

Through Hartford’s Boundless @ Home Project, approximately 400 teachers will be selecting age appropriate books to give to over 4000 students to take home to continue their home library building. Each student, from a selected eight of the city’s Title I Boundless partner schools, will receive \$10 in books to take home and keep.

Eligible educators, librarians, providers, and others serving children in need can sign up to receive resources from First Book outside of OMG Books Awards at firstbook.org/join. For more information, please visit firstbook.org.



Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

Suggestions to the Mayor and City Council for 2020-2021

It may be – we hope – that some of these suggestions are already being considered, or even acted upon, as we write this. However, few citizens/voters/activists have any knowledge of most of the following issues. So, here goes!

- Cut the mill rate, symbolically, by a mill or two. Way back in the 1990s, Republicans pushed for such cuts and the response was massively positive.
- Create a city convention and visitors bureau (CVB) which will work with the state and the current statewide organization. If this new City Council is really all about providing employment for city residents who need jobs, the hospitality industry will employ just about anybody. Most cities our size have active CVBs with a public/private set-up.
- Get the State to sell off the land and buildings it no longer needs. As 450 Columbus Boulevard fills up and the old state office building comes back on line, opportunities will open up all over the city for tax-paying development.
- Move on the Batterson Park lands. Sell off non-park parcels. Regionalize the park itself. Hartford cannot run such a dis-

tant facility on its own. With state parks overflowing on summer weekends, having Batterson Park closed is a disgrace.

- Fill the vacancies in the City’s top level positions. Should we modify the residency requirement for managers? If we can’t get qualified management personnel right now, that should be considered.
- Fix the quality of life problem. Start with the failed bulky trash ordinance – what a mess – before the summer hits us again with mountains of mattresses. It’s simple. Go back to trash day for bulky waste and enforce regulations. Also, hold periodic special days for big pick-ups and make sure they’re well-publicized.
- Consider going back to the merchant coordinator system, using part-time, retired qualified personnel. Every NRZ could use such a business-building addition to build the grand list, create local jobs and make goods and services available.

Now, we are sure that many of our readers have similar – and maybe better – ideas. If so, send them to us. We love letters to the editor and guest columns.

In My Opinion

Tenant Rights Victory in New York: New Laws Are A Model for Connecticut

BY DAVID SAMUELS

The Community Party will have a phone conference with House Majority Leader Matt Ritter January 13, to discuss legislation that would provide protection for whistleblower tenants against retaliatory landlords. Stay tuned for an update. Tenant rights activists in New York attained a historic victory, with the passage of the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019 and Statewide Housing Security Protection Act of 2019. Both bills were signed into law by Gov. Mario Cuomo June 14, 2019. This sweeping legislation is the template for reform in Connecticut and nationwide. You can read the bill language here (<https://trackbill.com/bill/new-york-senate-bill-6458-enacts-the-housing-stability-and-tenant-protection-act-of-2019/1757329/>)

The New York State Senate website provided a summary of the new laws.

Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019

Information Provided by Legal Services of the Hudson Valley

New Rights for Tenants

- Landlords cannot reject tenants because they had been in a court case with a prior landlord. The courts cannot sell eviction court data. Records of evictions that were the result of a foreclosure are sealed.
- Landlords must give tenants the opportunity for a walk-through before they move in and before they move out, and return the security deposit within fourteen days with an itemized list of any deductions.
- Landlords cannot evict or otherwise penalize tenants who complain about conditions.
- Landlords must give receipts (on request for personal checks) within

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THE HARTFORD NEWS

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2020 National Arts Program is Now Accepting Submissions

For nearly 30 years, the Community Renewal Team (CRT) has hosted an annual National Arts Program® (NAP), providing an opportunity for all local artists to showcase their art within the community. Youth, teens, amateurs, intermediate and professional artists from both Middlesex and Hartford Counties are invited to submit their work now for the 2020 art show, which will be on display at Capital Community College (950 Main Street in Hartford, CT) from February 13 – March 2, 2020.

All forms of visual arts are accepted for this show; from paintings and photographs to sculptures, crafts and textiles.

Entries submitted must be the original work of the applicant and completed within the last three years – up to two entries per artist. Participants must be current residents of Hartford or Middlesex County, or an employee or family member of an employee of CRT. Artists can submit their work for free to this show.

The deadline to register for the 2020 National Arts Program in Central Connecticut is Friday, February 7, 2020. To register for the show, please visit the NAP registration page: <https://www.nationalartsprogram.org/hartford/> Cash prizes will be awarded in each of the following categories:

- Amateur – an adult with little or no experience
- Intermediate – an adult with some experience, beginning art students, etc.
- Professional – an adult with serious art training or employed in an art-related job
- Youth (12 Years and younger)
- Teen (ages 13 - 18)
- Teens Looking Out for Teens (ages 13 – 18) – in this special category, individual teenagers or groups of teens can submit a piece of art that evokes a greater understanding of the social issues affecting teens.

The final category – “Teens Looking Out for Teens” is being offered again this year, following

the initial success of this new category added to the program last year.

All entries in the 2020 National Arts Program must be delivered to either:

- Capital Community College (located at 950 Main Street, Hartford) on Feb. 5 or 6 between 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm, or February 7 by appointment only.
- Avon Old Farms School (located at 500 Old Farms Road, Avon) on either February 5 or 6 between 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm at the Estabrook Art Center. (For questions about this second drop-off location, please contact Cristina Pinton at (860) 404-4183 or pintonc@avonoldfarms.com.)

A gallery display of all of the art submitted to the 2020 National Arts Program will be held at Capital Community College (950 Main Street in Hartford, CT), on the 1st and 11th floors from February 13 to March 2, 2020 during the following hours: Monday - Friday 7:00 am – 10:00 pm and Saturdays 8:00 am – 1:00pm. During that time, visitors are encouraged to vote for their favorite works of art to help select the “People’s Choice” award winner.

The 29th Annual National Arts reception and presentation of awards will take place on February 22, 2020 at 11:00 am in Centinal Hall, located on the 11th floor of Capital Community College. (In the event of inclement weather, the reception will be rescheduled for Feb. 29, 2020.)

The National Arts Program provides materials and funding for this visual art exhibit including awards for winning work totaling \$3,450.

All prizes are determined by a panel of judges with experience in the arts. Prizes will be awarded by classification:

- Adult (Amateur, Intermediate and Professional) – There will be three First Place Awards of \$350; three Second Place Awards of \$250; and three Third Place Awards of \$150.

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Baby Grand Jazz Series Continues

The Baby Grand Jazz Series at Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford is held every Sunday through April 26 (except for Easter Sunday, April 19th), from 3 – 4 pm (doors open at 2 pm).

2020 Schedule

Jan. 12	Ed Fast & Conga Bop
Jan. 19	Dakota Austin Quintet
Jan. 26	Saskia Laroo Band
Feb. 2	Matt Chasen's "This Is Our Music" Ensemble
Feb. 9	The Unity Quintet
Feb. 16	Emilio Solla Tributango
Feb. 23	Nathan Davis Sextet
March 1	Ron Smith Quintet
March 8	The Afro-Semitic Experience
March 15	Iris Ormig Quintet
March 22	Haneef N. Nelson Quintet
March 29	Ricky Alfonso Group
April 5	Envisage Collective
April 12	Easter (No concert)
April 19	The Joe Carter Samba Rio Quarteto
April 26	TAEKO

Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts Now Recruiting

Boy Scouts Troop #2 Hartford is now recruiting boys ages 11 - 17 and Cub Scouts Pack #2 Hartford is now recruiting boys ages 7 - 10. Meeting's will be held the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 12noon - 2pm at the Salvation Army, 100 Nelson Street, Hartford.

For more information and an application, please contact Cub & Boy Scouts Master Victor Luna, Jr. at 860-983-5629

Roberto Clemente Honored with Art, Music and Words



1st Place: Ian Ortiz

2nd Place Winner: Valerie Rosa



3rd Place Winner: Julia Krazcka

On December 31st, the 8th Annual Clemente Celebration was held at Sport and Medical Science Academy (SMSA) on Huyshope Avenue, Hartford. Clemente, a philanthropist, civil rights activist and Hall of Fame baseball player, died in a plane crash on December 31, 1972 while flying aid to survivors of an earthquake in Nicaragua.

The event was organized by six SMSA seniors: Ray Tirado, Jordan Rivera, Brandon Mercado, Isiah Sierra, Connor Hasson and

Alejandro Soriano. Speakers included Waterbury State Representative Geraldo Reyes, Mayor Luke Bronin and Hartford School Superintendent Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez. Music was provided by Los Gigantes de la Plena.

For the second year an art competition was held as part of the celebration. Mega Education awarded \$250 to Ian Ortiz for the 1st prize, \$150 to Valerie Rosa for 2nd Prize and \$100 to Julia Krazcka.

CITY OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

The second semi-annual installment of taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2018, and the Supplemental Motor Vehicle List, were due and payable on January 1, 2020.

Failure to pay any tax due January 1, 2020, on or before February 3, 2020, will cause the tax to become delinquent and subject to interest, from the due date, at the rate of 1 1/2 % per full or partial month. Any delinquent tax is subject to a minimum interest charge of two dollars (\$2.00).

Since failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax or, in the event of delinquency, respective penalties, taxpayers who did not receive a bill should request a duplicate from the Division of Assessment and Collection.

Payments may be made in person at the Office of the Tax Collector, 550 Main Street, Room 106, Hartford, Connecticut, during the hours listed below, mailed to the address on the bills or paid online at WWW.HARTFORD.GOV.

Monday through Wednesday 8:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; Thursday 8:15 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Friday 8:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (excluding holidays).

NANCY RAICH, CCMC
Tax Collector
City of Hartford

EXPLORE & APPLY! SCHOOL CHOICE in the Greater Hartford Region



On-Time Application Period Deadline is **January 31, 2020** at www.ChoiceEducation.org

School Choice Winter Fair
Saturday, January 11 • 10am – 1pm

Conard High School, 110 Beechwood Rd., West Hartford

Learn about PreK-12 magnet schools, technical high schools, and the Hartford Region Open Choice Program, speak with school representatives, and start a school choice application. (Snow date: Saturday, January 18, 2020)

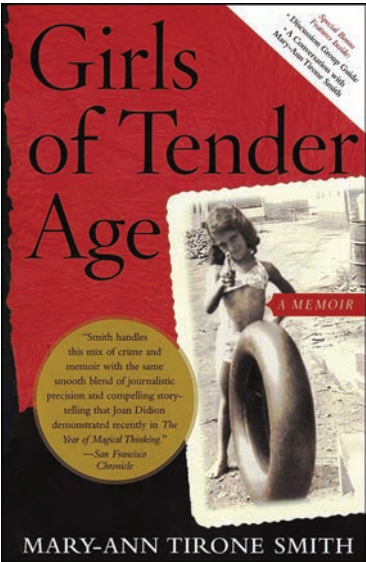


Justice for Pidgie

Continued from page 1

Pidgie:

Just like what happened to the 17



year-old Hartford girl who also lived in the southwest part of the city and was also followed, grabbed, nearly strangled with her scarf, and sexually assaulted by Malm two weeks before Irene was killed. The difference was that Patricia “Pidgie” D’Alessio (the pseudonym Smith gave her in the book) lived. And she told—told her parents and told the Hartford police, right after it happened. If she’d been taken more seriously by the officers who came to her house that night, she might have been able to save Irene’s life. But it didn’t happen that way. The traumatized Pidgie, bolstered by her parents, was questioned about what had happened. They asked her if she had “a lot of boyfriends”. And when they left her house, they concluded that the marks and welts on her neck and throat from the tightened scarf were just hickeys; love bites. In their mind, no assault or rape had occurred because she had answered that she was not raped. (In the 1950s, for a sexual assault to be labeled “rape” required that the victim’s vagina must have been penetrated by a penis. Malm had forcefully penetrated and fondled Pidgie’s vagina with his hand and

then ejaculated on her. By today’s standards, his actions would be classified as rape.) In Irene’s case, he had also removed all her clothing and, by his own eagerness to accept the choice to have a bench trial instead of a jury trial, confessed to restraining and torturing her for a half-hour and then molesting and murdering her. Following the discovery of Irene’s body, detectives were sent to the D’Alessios’ home on December 12th, 1953, due to the similarities of the attacks. This time Pidgie was able to give them more information which helped them identify Malm, who had a record of molestation and attempted molestation both in and out of Connecticut going back several years. They brought him in, and Pidgie, accompanied by her parents and a police-woman, picked Malm out of a line-up as the man who assaulted her. The next day, the police asked her to come to the station again. They have her enter a room where he’s sitting across from her and looking at her; she hears him speak, and attests that it’s the voice of her attacker. It was a stressful, frightening, difficult process for the teenager, but one of great value to the Hartford police. Without the 17 year old girl’s bravery and willingness to confront Bob Malm, the architect of her nightmarish experience, they might not have been able to arrest him for Irene’s murder.

The Reward:

Governor John Davis Lodge was a blue blood. Born in Washington, D.C. to a wealthy political family, his ancestors included seven United States Senators. Educated at several private schools in his youth, he later graduated from Harvard and Harvard Law, and was admitted to the bar. A handsome man with a flair for the dramatic he next spent the years from 1933-1942 working as an actor in film and on the stage, including some major Hollywood pictures. He served as a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy during WW II. Lodge entered politics

in 1947, and the Republican was elected to the U.S. Congress from Connecticut’s 4th District, serving two terms, and was elected Governor of Connecticut in 1950. (He was later appointed U.S. Ambassador to Spain, Argentina, and Switzerland by Eisenhower, Nixon, and Reagan, respectively). On December 14th, 1953 Governor Lodge offered a reward of \$3,000 for information leading to the apprehension of Irene’s killer.

No Justice:



Connecticut Supreme Court Justice Raymond E. Baldwin

Connecticut Supreme Court Justice Raymond E. Baldwin was also a lifelong Republican with a storied political career. Raised in Middletown, he graduated from Wesleyan University and then entered Yale Law, but at the start of WW I, he left Yale and enlisted in the U.S. Navy, earning the rank of Lieutenant. In 1918 he returned to school and was admitted to the bar in 1921. In 1931 he was elected to the Connecticut Legislature and served as a Representative from Stratford until 1933. He served his first term as Governor from 1939-1940, and was re-elected two more times in 1942 and 1944. From 1946-1949 he served as a U.S. Senator. In 1949 he became an Associate Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court of Errors, and was appointed Chief Justice from 1959 until his retirement in 1963. Pidgie D’Alessio put in a claim for the \$3,000 reward. It was denied by Baldwin. An appeal was filed. It was denied again.

Mary-Ann Tirone Smith:

“Baldwin determined that an offer of a reward was a contract, no different from a business contract. Since the reward—the contract—was dated December 14th, two days after Pidgie gave the police the details of the crime against her and one day after she picked Malm out of a line-up, Judge Baldwin ruled she did not claim the reward in response to the offer; the offer hadn’t been made yet. According to Baldwin, Pidgie did not abide by the conditions of the contract. And where did the governor’s offer of reward make such a stipulation? Nowhere. The two other judges witnessing the proceedings concurred with him.”

The text of Judge Baldwin’s repulsive conclusion to his argument:

“An offer of reward ... is not the recognition of an equitable duty of the government to the informer, but a mere act of public policy...whose

terms are wholly within the discretion of the government. Whoever [makes a claim for such an offer] must bring himself within its terms. Failing to do that, his compensation is the consolation which comes to every citizen from the discharge of a public duty...the common obligation of all.... Courts must apply legislative enactments [meaning Governor Lodge’s reward offer] according to their plain terms.”

“Judge Baldwin saw fit in his parting shot to lecture Pidgie with condescending derision, berating her for not appreciating that her consolation should not come from a reward, but from her public duty, which according to him, is an obligation. But Pidgie was consoled by performing her public duty, consoled by her hope that her testimony would prevent what happened to her from happening to other girls.”

The Survivor:

Pidgie D’Alessio is now 84 years old and living in West Hartford. She had a life—college, marriage, and three sons. The youngest, Joseph, reached out to Mary-Ann. He never heard of the crime against his mother, and only learned of it when checking a census for family names. His mother’s maiden name showed a connection to Malm’s case, and he told his mother he needed to speak to her about something in her past. Now, the two haven’t stopped speaking about what happened to her, how it affected her and their loved ones. She told him that when her book club was planning to discuss *Girls of Tender Age*, she realized that her rape was integral to the book. She quit the club. She never read the book, but a decade later her son did:

Dear Ms. Tirone Smith,

My wife and I have just finished reading your book, *Girls of Tender Age*. Thank you for writing it. It has affected me deeply, and my understanding of who my mother is. I first learned of Robert Malm a few years ago when I was searching my mother’s maiden name hoping to find her in the newly publicized 1940 census. My mother and her family never mentioned Malm or her involvement in the case. In some very profound ways, my mother has remained a teenager her whole life. I now understand why her development was stifled. She is 84 years old and will answer my questions about this terrible time directly and eerily without the emotion one would expect. I am pretty sure she distanced herself from emotions all those years ago.

I hope it is rewarding for you to know how impactful your work is and how telling Irene’s story continues to heal generations who weren’t even born at the time of her murder.

Mary-Ann Tirone Smith:

“If I see wrong, I go on the attack. It’s just what I do. If I’m not furious at least once a week, it means I’m dead. Pidgie was badly treated by Connecticut politicians—even Governor Lodge. This is a decades-old miscarriage of jus-

Help Get Justice for Pidgie

If you want to support this effort, please email or call the elected officials below and tell them you want “Justice for Pidgie”

Governor Ned Lamont
860-566-4840

State Senator Derek Slap,
District 5
Derek.Slap@cga.ct.gov, 860-240-4436

State Senator John W. Fonfara, District 1
John.Fonfara@cga.ct.gov
860-240-0043

Representative Jillian Gilchrest, District 18
Jillian.Gilchrest@cga.ct.gov
860-240-8585

Representative Edwin Vargas, District 6,
Edwin.Vargas@cga.ct.gov
860-240-8585

Representative Julio Concepcion, District 4
Julio.Concepcion@cga.ct.gov
860-240-8585

tice, and she deserves the \$3,000 reward and an apology from the State through Governor Lamont. All I want to do is talk to somebody and see if we can make it happen”

She has tried to talk to somebody. Mary-Ann Tirone Smith has contacted Governor Lamont’s office. The same with Derek Slap, State Senator, West Hartford, District 5; and Jillian Gilchrest, State Representative, West Hartford, District 18, who represent the area where Pidgie currently lives. In Hartford, the same request was sent to John W. Fonfara, State Senator, Hartford, District 1; Edwin Vargas, State Representative, Hartford, District 6; and Julio Concepcion, State Representative, Hartford, District 4. These men now represent the districts where Pidgie D’Alessio and Irene Fiederowicz lived the year they were attacked. She has received only one response thus far: A form letter from Vargas thanking her for contacting him.

Looking for a way to get Pidgie’s story out to the broader public, she also contacted the *Hartford Courant* — more than once. “They blew me off without so much as giving me the courtesy of a response.” Mary-Ann, a tenacious woman, a gifted writer on a mission, wants justice for Pidgie. She wants it in time for an epilogue to *Girls of Tender Age* to be published in the next edition. The full epilogue can be read online at: www.mary-anntironesmith.com. She’s not seeking 66 years worth of interest to be added to the original \$3,000 reward, although it’s a sure bet that for hundreds of State employees, that’s only about one week’s salary.

“Pidgie D’Alessio was raped twice, once by a brutal psychopath and then again by the State of Connecticut. This courageous teenager, who acted on her obligation to society—one that treated her with obscene scorn—deserves a second reparation from Connecticut: an official apology from Governor Ned Lamont,” wrote Mary-Ann Tirone Smith.



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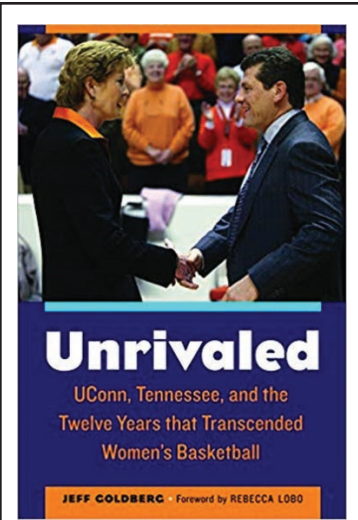
MLK Day at the Stowe Center

The Harriet Beecher Stowe Center (HBSC), 77 Forest Street, Hartford, will mark Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 20, with several events and activities.

HBSC will create an environment of inspiration all day with the hope that visitors will be motivated to action - write a love letter, take a tour, share a snack, and explore issues at the midday Salon at Lunch. The campus is open to the public from 11 am - 4 pm. Everything is free and audiences of all ages are encouraged to participate. Activities include:

- **Free house tours all day 11 am - 4 pm:** HBSC will be offering two ways to experience the Harriet Beecher Stowe House including 30-minute guided tours from 11-1:30 pm and Explore at Your Own Pace (also known as self-guided tours) from 2-4 pm.
- **Write a Love letter 11 am - 4 pm:** Drop in the Dining Room of the Day House (for as short or long as you wish!) to write a love letter. All materials will be provided.
- **Salon at Stowe 12 - 1 pm:** Join Stowe Center Program Manager Katie Burton and Capital Community College students in the Visitor Center as they discuss current issues and topics of racial injustice and the legacy of King and Stowe. Bag lunch optional.

- **Cornbread and Caffeine 11 am - 4 pm:** Visitors are welcome to share a snack of MLK's favorite food, cornbread, and sip some tea and coffee in the Day House. Come enjoy the architecture and community while supporting the Stowe Center's mission of inspiring us to action.



Book Signing for New UConn Hoops Book

Author Jeff Goldberg will sign copies of his new book, "Unrivaled: UConn, Tennessee and the Twelve Years That Transcended Women's Basketball," on Thursday, January 23, at 5 pm at the UConn Hartford Barnes & Noble Book Store, 18 Front St., Downtown Hartford. The event is free.



Reliable Tire Celebrates 100 Years!

On Friday, January 3, Reliable Auto Tire Company at 711 Maple Avenue celebrated 100 years in business. Reliable was founded in 1919 on Park Street by Anthony Massaro. The car repair shop and tire store is now run by his grandsons, Marty, Jerry and Anthony Massaro (front, second, third and fourth from left). Among those on hand to congratulate the Massaro family and their staff were U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, State Treasurer Shawn Wooden, Mayor Luke Bronin, and City Treasurer Adam Cloud, who said as far as he knows, Reliable is the second oldest family-owned business in Hartford, behind Hartford Lumber. (Hart photo)

Operation Fuel's Ice House Event January 24 & 25

Come visit Connecticut's coolest attraction, the Operation Fuel Ice House presented by Eversource Energy on January 24-25 at the Old State House Grounds in Hartford.

Don't miss this unique structure carved from 40,000 pounds of ice plus thermal imaging body heat photos, giveaways, food trucks, mascots, and more.

Your suggested donation of \$5 will help Connecticut

families and individuals with energy assistance. go to www.operationfuel.org/ice for more information.

Operation Fuel provides energy assistance year round throughout Connecticut to lower-income working families and individuals, the elderly, and disabled individuals who are in a financial crisis. Currently more than 400,000 Connecticut households can't afford their energy bills, which are among the highest in the nation.

HARTFORD REGION

Open CHOICE PROGRAM

INFORMATION SESSION

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

(Snow date: Wednesday, January 15)

5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

CREC

111 Charter Oak Avenue

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www.chooseCREC.org

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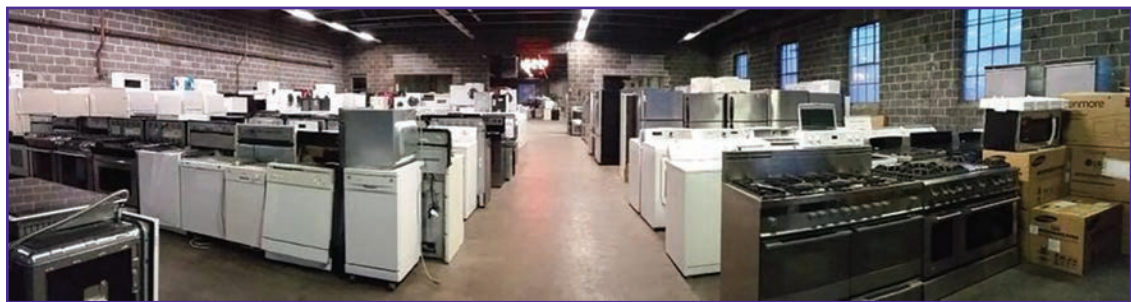
New Ping Pong Parlor on Pratt St.



Mayor Luke Bronin tries out his ping pong skills on Wednesday, December 18, at the grand opening of PoP!, Hartford's first dedicated table tennis and pop-up play hall at 55 Pratt Street in Downtown Hartford. Michael Seidenfeld, Chief Operating Officer of Shelbourne Global Solutions, LLC and Tim Moore, Principal with Blue Haus Group, joined Bronin in cutting the ribbon to open Downtown's newest business. PoP! is a pop-up to temporarily activate empty storefronts and is the latest venture of Shelbourne's ongoing effort to reinvent and reinvigorate downtown Hartford as a 24/7 city for work and play. Shelbourne began investing in Hartford in 2014. Since then, the company has acquired four downtown Hartford office towers, partnered with LAZ Investments to buy the iconic Gold building and purchased three buildings on the south side of historic Pratt Street. Shelbourne's redevelopment of Pratt Street is part of their vision to create a Live Work Play environment, with the goal of attracting more young talent to downtown Hartford. With 1,615,000 square feet of office and retail space, the company is currently the largest Class A office building owner in Hartford's central business district. Shelbourne tapped Blue Haus Group to find ways to increase demand and foot traffic on the south side of Pratt Street and to maximize use of all available retail space. PoP! features 1,800 square feet of space, three indoor/outdoor Joola table tennis tables, assorted custom paddles and other amenities. Players can pay by the hour or by monthly membership. (Hart photo)

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Hartford American Job Center Offers Employment And Training Workshops

A variety of training and employment workshops to assist Hartford-area residents this month are being offered by the Connecticut Department of Labor (DOL) in the agency's Hartford American Job Center at 3580 Main Street. Advance registration is encouraged due to space limitations. To register, go to CTHires.com or call (860) 256-3700.

Fundamentals of Résumé Writing: January 13 from 9:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Intended for those who have never had a résumé or do not have a current résumé, this lecture and discussion will cover the basics of résumé creation.

Veterans Workshop: January 15 from 2 – 3:45 p.m.

Learn about veterans services at the DOL and acquire skills to help get you employed.

Successful Job Search

LIQUOR PERMIT NOTICE OF APPLICATION

This is to give notice that I,
JUAN R. BRITO JR
54 NEW PARK AVE FL 3
HARTFORD, CT 06106-2122

Have filed an application placarded 01/14/2020 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a GROCERY BEER PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at 152 FRANKLIN AVE., HARTFORD CT 06114-1332.

The business will be owned by:
EL PATIO GROCERIES DELI, INC

Objections must be filed by:
02-25-2020

JUAN R BRITO JR

Strategies: January 17 from 9:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Understanding the process, research involved, and technologies essential to an effective job search.

LinkedIn: January 21 from 9:15 – 11:45 p.m.

Designed so that you can establish a professional networking profile to help build your network.

Over 40 and Looking for Work: January 24 from 9:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Attendees will discuss the challenges and employer expectations for workers over the age of 40.

Interviewing Strategies: January 27 from 9:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Designed to provide the knowledge and skills needed to effectively compete with other candidates.

Mock Interviews: January 27 from 1:15 to 3:45 p.m.

With the assistance of a Career Development Specialist, participate in videotaped interview sessions.

Advanced Résumé Writing: January 31 from 9:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Participants can enhance the content of their current résumé by fine-tuning the summary/profile, keywords, accomplishments and achievements.

